AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended)   In a computerized system that includes one or more ~~program~~ computer-executable program components, including one or more computer-executable requesting components configured to execute one or more computer-executable target components in the computerized system, a method of automatically providing a computer-executable requesting component with access to an ~~appropriate~~ automatically determined version of a computer-executable target component upon request, comprising the acts of:

receiving a request from a requesting component for access by the requesting component ~~of a specified version~~ of a computer-executable target component, wherein the request includes an indication of the lowest possible version of the target component that the requesting component can accept;

upon receiving the request from the requesting component, identifying a versioning policy of the specified lowest possible version of the requested target component;

identifying an appropriate version of the target component based on the versioning policy of the specified lowest possible version of the target component, wherein the appropriate version of the target component is at least as high as the lowest possible version; and

providing the requesting component with access to the appropriate version of the target component, wherein the requesting component executes the identified and provided target component.

2.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the requested version of the target component is one of a library component and a platform component.

3.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein identifying an appropriate version of the target component comprises identifying a more recent version of the target component in response to a request for an earlier version of the target even though the more recent version and the earlier version are both accessible to the computerized system.

4.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 2, identifying a more recent version of the target component in response to a request for an earlier version of the target even though the more recent version and the earlier version are both accessible to the computerized system comprises identifying a more recent version of a platform component even though an earlier version of the platform component remained on the system when the more recent version was received at the computerized system.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, ~~wherein~~ further comprising an act of identifying the versioning policy of the specified lowest possible version of the target component ~~is identified~~ when the specified lowest possible version of the target component is ~~one or more of compiled, configured, installed, and run on~~added to the computerized system.

6.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising an act of storing, in the requesting component ~~wherein~~ version information that identifies the specified lowest possible version of the target component ~~is stored~~in the requesting component when the requesting component is one or more of compiled, configured, installed, and run on the computerized system.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

identifying one or more requesting components that are able to access a prior version of the target component;

identifying that none of the one or more requesting components are configured to request the prior version of the target component; and

deleting the prior version of the target component.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the <u>request further includes a request for a specific version</u><s>appropriate version</s> of the target component<u>, wherein the requested specific version</u> is <u>different from </u>the <u>lowest possible </u>version of the target component <s>that was requested</s>.

9.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 8<s>1</s>, wherein the <u>automatically determined </u>appropriate version of the target component is different from the <u>requested specific</u> version of the target component that was requested.

10.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1<s>8</s>, <s>wherein </s><u>further comprising receiving a plurality of new versions of the target component, wherein each of the new versions of the target component are associated with a different versioning policy.</u><s>target component access is provided to the requesting component through a determining module.</s>

11.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 9, <s>wherein the availability of one or more of the prior version of the target component and the more recent version of the target component is identified by a determining module</s><u>further comprising determining the appropriate version of the target component from among the specified lowest possible version of the target component and each of the plurality of new versions of the target component</u> when the <s>one or more of the prior</s><u>plurality of new</u> version<u>s</u> of the target component<u>.</u> <s>and the more recent version of the target component is received by the computerized system.</s>

12.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the versioning policy is inserted into computer-executable instructions in the target component prior to one of installing, configuring, and executing the target component on the computerized system.

13.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the versioning policy is further identified in ~~any~~ a plurality of versions of the target component on the computerized system.

14.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ each versioning policy in each version of the target component identifies ~~that any of the prior version of the target component and the more recent version of the target component is configured to be accessed by~~ a specific version of the requesting component configured to access that target component.

15.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising identifying a component scope that is associated with the target component.

16.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein ~~access to~~ the appropriate version ~~specified version~~ of the target component is further automatically determined based on one of the identified component scope associated with the target component in addition to a determination of the lowest possible version that can be accepted.~~, and a target component scope supplied by a system administrator.~~

17.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 15, wherein the identified component scope specifies that access to the specified version of the target component is provided differently from the lowest possible version of the target component in one ~~or more~~ of a machine level, a process level, ~~and~~ or a sub-process level.

18.   (Currently Amended)   The method as recited in claim 1, ~~wherein the requested target component is a library component, the method~~ further comprising identifying a servicing value associated with the requested target component.

19.   (Currently Amended)   The method as recited in claim 18~~1~~, wherein identifying an appropriate version of the target component ~~comprising~~ comprises identifying an updated ~~version~~ servicing of a ~~library~~ target component. ~~based on the identified versioning policy and the identified servicing value.~~

20. (Currently Amended) In a computerized system that includes one or more ~~program~~ computer-executable <u>program</u> components, including one or more computer-executable requesting components that can request to access one or more computer-executable target components in the computerized system, a method of <u>automatically</u> providing a computer-executable requesting component with access to an ~~appropriate~~ <u>automatically determined</u> version of a computer-executable target component, comprising:

receiving a request from a requesting component for access by the requesting component ~~of a specified version~~ of a computer-executable target component<u>, wherein the request includes an indication of the lowest possible version of the target component that the requesting component can accept</u>;

a step for, upon receiving the request from the requesting component, determining an appropriate version of the requested target component based on a versioning policy corresponding to the requested target component, and allowing access to the appropriate version of the requested target component such that the requesting component accesses the appropriate target component as it has been configured to do so, and such that the requesting component does not fail when requesting access to a component that has been upgraded.

21.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 20, wherein the step for allowing access to an appropriate version of the requested target component comprises the corresponding acts of:

upon receiving the request from the requesting component, identifying a versioning policy of the specified <u>lowest possible</u> version of the requested target component;

identifying an appropriate version of the target component based on the versioning policy of the specified <u>lowest possible version of the</u> target component<u>, wherein the appropriate version of the target component is at least as high as the lowest possible version</u>; and

providing the requesting component with access to the appropriate version of the target component, wherein the requesting component executes the identified and provided target component.

22. (Currently Amended) In a computerized system that includes one or more program components, including one or more requesting components that can request to access one or more target components in the computerized system, a method of automatically managing access of one or more versions of ~~upgrading a~~ computer-executable target components such that a computer-executable requesting component that accesses the computer-executable target component continues to operate effectively after the target component has been upgraded with newer versions thereof, comprising the acts of:

identifying that a requesting component is configured to execute a computer-executable target component;

automatically identifying a versioning policy in at least an available existing version of the target component and a versioning policy in an available, previously installed version of the target component; and

automatically ~~identifying~~ determining ~~which~~ that only one of the available versions of the target component should remain on the system based on any of the identified versioning policies corresponding to at least the existing version of the target component and the previously installed version of the target component.

23. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 22, wherein the existing version of the target component includes a versioning value and a servicing value, the method further comprising:

receiving an updated ~~version~~ servicing of the existing version of the target component over a network from a network service provider~~.~~; and

automatically overwriting the existing version of the target component, wherein the existing version of the target component reflects the versioning value and a new servicing value.

24.   (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 22, ~~wherein, if~~further comprising, upon reviewing the versioning policy of one or more new versions of the target component, ~~indicates that the requesting component is a library component~~, automatically adding ~~the existing~~the new versions of the target component to the system without removing ~~the~~any of the previously installed versions of the target component.

25.   (Currently Amended)   The method as recited in claim 24~~22~~, wherein the automatic determination is based on whether the target component is one of a library component or a platform , ~~if the versioning policy indicates that the requesting component is a platform component, overwriting the previously installed version of the target component with the existing version of the target~~ component.

26.   (Currently Amended) In a computerized system including one or more requesting components that are configured to access one or more target components in the computerized system, a computer program storage product having computer-executable instructions stored thereon that, when executed, cause one or more processors in the computerized system to execute a method of automatically providing a computer-executable requesting component with access to an ~~appropriate~~ automatically determined version of a computer-executable target component upon request, comprising the acts of:

receiving a request from a requesting component for access by the requesting component ~~of a specified version~~ of a computer-executable target component, wherein the request includes an indication of the lowest possible version of the target component that the requesting component can accept;

upon receiving the request from the requesting component, identifying a versioning policy of the specified lowest possible version of the requested target component;

identifying an appropriate version of the target component based on the versioning policy of the specified lowest possible version of the target component, wherein the appropriate version of the target component is at least as high as the lowest possible version; and

providing the requesting component with access to the appropriate version of the target component, wherein the requesting component executes the identified and provided target component.

27. (Currently Amended) In a computerized system including one or more requesting components that are configured to access one or more target components in the computerized system, a computer program storage product having computer-executable instructions stored thereon that, when executed, cause one or more processors in the computerized system to execute a method of automatically managing access of one or more versions of ~~upgrading a~~ computer-executable target component<u>s</u> such that a computer-executable requesting component that accesses the computer-executable target component continues to operate effectively after the target component has been upgraded <u>with newer versions thereof</u>, comprising the acts of:

identifying that a requesting component is configured to execute a computer-executable target component;

<u>automatically</u> identifying a versioning policy in at least an <u>available</u> existing version of the target component and a versioning policy in a<u>n available,</u> previously installed version of the target component; and

<u>automatically</u> ~~identifying~~ <u>determining</u> ~~which~~ <u>that only one of the available</u> versions of the target component should remain on the system based on any of the identified versioning policies corresponding to at least the existing version of the target component and the previously installed version of the target component.